

Burrillville

Recreation Commission

RE: Minutes, September 14, 2009

Present: Cheri Hall, Director David Marcotte

Kurt Schatz, Chair Juliette Lopez-Recinos Alice Lavigne, Secretary

L. Kevin McDonald

Al Low Kevin H. Mazzarella, Alternate

Absent: -----

Excused: Al Gerew, Vice Chair

Guests: Amy Lapierre and Kathy Mainville.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Kurt Schatz, Chair at the Burrillville Parks and Recreation Offices, 92 North Main Street, Pascoag, R.I.

Motion to accept minutes of August 11, 2009 regular meeting by David Marcotte. Seconded by Alice Lavigne. Motion passed 5-0.

Request to move up New Business Agenda item-Branch River Park Use- to accommodate guests, Amy Lapierre and Kathy Mainville.

New Business:

Branch River Park Use

Amy Lapierre asked the Recreation Commission to reconsider allowing the children at the Middle School to utilize the track and field within the track for gym classes. A lengthy discussion was held informing Amy of the reasons the Commission has restricted use, not only for maintenance issues but more importantly for the safety of the children.

The Recreation Commission asked the Director to meet with the Superintendent of Schools to discuss his concerns, if any, of the middle school students walking the track at the same time as the general public.

Kathy Mainville discussed with the Commission an incident this past summer with her son's soccer team, when they were asked to leave the field within the track. The Director asked the team on more than one occasion not to utilize the track field for practice, referring to the regulations governing the use of the field. This field is by permit only and a game field only. An alternative was given the teams, but the boy's varsity soccer team did not want to practice on the other fields at the Park. It was explained that all fields in town are by permit for organized sports and practice. In some cases there is fee associated with the use. The permit allows the department to monitor the use of

the facility, as well as avoiding conflicts of use, etc.

Correspondence:

None

Good & Welfare:

Kurt Schatz welcomed new alternate member Kevin H. Mazzearella to the Recreation Commission.

The Director reported on the availability of flu shots for members of the Board, who are interested will be given at the Town Hall from 2:30 to 4:30 on 9/24/09.

Old Business:

Spring Lake Beach

The Director reviewed the Spring Lake Beach report regarding the total income for the summer of 2009 being \$7,000 more than the summer of 2008. This was due to the season starting later and family passes being down but general admissions up by \$12,000-\$13,000 over last year. Champlin Recreation Hall rentals were over \$9,600 this year compared to \$5,000 for 2008. Wages and other expenses will be available for the next scheduled Recreation Commission meeting.

The Director will be reviewing with State of Rhode Island the possibility of dropping the non-resident family pass. The rule is the fee for admission cannot be more than double for non-residents compared to residents. Currently, our non-resident daily admission is \$3 with resident admission at \$1.50 which meets this requirement. We could still offer the Burrillville residents a family pass but discontinue the non-resident family pass since we are not required to offer a family pass to non-residents. We would still be in compliance and would save the town the \$5,000 appropriation currently utilized to offset the cost of half the Burrillville resident family passes. This would also assist in stopping the abuse of family passes. The Town Manager was in agreement with this suggestion for the new fee structure and suggested this information be shared with Council members if the Recreation Commission is in agreement of putting this change into action.

Another recommendation to change the current admission policy of “2 and under” being free to “children not walking yet” being free is being reviewed. Dave Marcotte suggested for the first year with the change to discontinue the non-resident family pass, still allow Spring Lake to accept the \$5,000 appropriation as in the past to see if the non-resident daily pass admissions increase enough to offset the \$5,000 appropriation. The Director stated this new admission schedule is being reviewed due to the need to cut the \$5,000. A printout was distributed to the commission regarding the Spring Lake Beach total number of admissions for the 2009 summer season.

2009-2010 Budget/League

The Director reported that the Town Manager stated the 20% reduction per year of the next five years was a good plan to reduce the town appropriation to the individual leagues. A joint meeting with the league directors and the Recreation Commission will be scheduled to review the reduction schedule and make the leagues aware that the 20% per year can change if further cuts are necessary, especially if the town experiences another reduction in state aid.

Louis Bleiweis Memorial Park

The Director reported that approximately 60-70 people were in attendance at the Louis Bleiweis Memorial Park Dedication Ceremony. Jerilyn Sawyer sang the National Anthem and Representative Edwin Pacheco, Senator Paul Fogarty, and Town Council President Nancy Binns spoke. Louis Bleiweis Memorial Park pins were given to commemorate the occasion. Nice pictures of the dedication ceremony were displayed in the Neighbors Newspaper and pictures shared with Recreation Commission members.

Duck Race

The Director stated the Duck Race was a successful event with \$1,395 made in proceeds with \$697.50 to benefit the Burrillville Parks and

Recreation Department and \$697.50 to benefit the Burrillville Lions Club. 408 ducks went in the water which was almost 100 more than previous, plus a \$30 donation was made.

5K Snakes Alive Road Race

Flyers for this year's Snakes Alive Road Race were distributed to the commission for posting to advertise for the Sunday, October 11th event scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Assistance was requested for the day of the event.

Recreation Vehicle

The S.U.V. that was being utilized by the Director is currently at North Main Auto for evaluation. The vehicle has 120,000 miles, the undercarriage is rotted and North Main Auto stated the vehicle would not recommend purchasing this vehicle for the department. At the Burrillville Extended Care Board of Directors meeting the vote to allow funding for a new Parks and Recreation vehicle with the restriction to not allow use by another town department was reviewed and rescinded. A new vote was taken to purchase the vehicle from the appropriate funds with no restriction of use. Suggestion was made for the Recreation Commission to do the same. The Director explained that whether the funds come from sides funds or general fund it is still town funds.

A motion was made by L. Kevin McDonald to amend the vote to remove the restriction to not allow the use by another town department with the stipulation that a replacement vehicle would be supplied to the Parks & Recreation Department if the newly purchased vehicle is being utilized by another department. Seconded by Juliette Lopez-Recinos. Motion passed 5-0.

New Business:

Branch River Park Use

(See above)

Spring Lake Beach Vendors

The Spring Lake Beach vendor contracts were for 3 years with a 2 year extension which brings the contracts up for review next year. Copies of the contracts will be distributed in the future for review.

The Director distributed the Fall Newsletter, September Calendar and October Calendar demonstrating the current fall programming being offered. Senior Workshops are being compiled for this fall with a couple of new workshops being added including three new workshops on Wisely Giving to Charities, Identity Theft, and Fraud and Scams to be presented by the Better Business Bureau. Jason Rhodes has been contacted to conduct a workshop on Emergency Preparedness. The dates will be locked in to allow for listing in the Burrillville Bugle. A fee of \$5 for supplies will be charged for the Arts

and Crafts Workshops.

The Town Manager is requesting the Recreation Commission review the ordinance regarding Field Permit Fees to separate the fees for field use from light usage. The Director will make this an item on next month's Recreation Commission meeting agenda.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion made David Marcotte. Seconded by Al Low. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. Motion Passed 5-0.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 13, 2009 at 6:30 p.m., Burrillville Parks & Recreation Office, 92 North Main Street, Pascoag, RI 02859.

Recorded by

Carol L. Conway

Administrative Aide

Burrillville Parks & Recreation Department

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